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Identical letters dated 21 November 2006 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

We have learned through the media that the Lebanese Republic and the United Nations are in the process of concluding and adopting the "agreement and statute" pursuant to which a special tribunal for Lebanon is to be established to prosecute persons responsible for the crime of the killing of Rafiq Hariri, former Prime Minister of Lebanon.

Syria and other States have continually expressed their view that the "special tribunal" should not be established until after completion of the work of the International Independent Investigation Commission, with which close cooperation remains ongoing in the interest of its investigations. In this context, we should like to draw your attention to the fact that the views of the Syrian Arab Republic concerning those two documents have hitherto not been sought and that it has not even officially had sight of either text.

Consequently, in the event that the statute of the tribunal is adopted, unacceptable transgressions that undermine the sovereignty of certain Member States and the rights of their subjects are likely to transpire.

Adoption of the statute of the "special tribunal" in such a manner will firmly establish our belief that Syria has no connection with this tribunal.

(*Signed*) Bachar **Jaafari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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